

vision, he ensured the steady course of American democracy and, in relinquishing his office at the appointed time, established the peaceful transition of power that has become the envy of other nations around the world.

Abraham Lincoln preserved the Union that Washington helped to create. He guided America through four years of painful and bloody conflict, and at the end of his Presidency, we were still one nation under God, and government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" had not perished from our land.

But Presidents alone cannot ensure America's success or preserve our freedom for future generations. It falls to each and every citizen to take part in the great experiment of American democracy. As we face the unknown challenges and exciting possibilities of a new century, let us renew our resolve to participate actively in the process of government, to stay informed and committed, and to educate our children about the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. In this way we will keep faith with the great men whose service and sacrifice we honor on this day.

**Bill Clinton**

### **Statement on the Railroad Accident in Silver Spring, Maryland**

*February 17, 1996*

Today all Americans extend our thoughts and prayers to the families of the people who died in the train crash last night. We are working hard to find out what caused this tragedy.

Several young men and women who died were Job Corps trainees, returning from a training center in West Virginia—taking a journey of personal responsibility. They were working hard to better themselves, and we salute their lives as we mourn their deaths.

### **Statement on the Death of Pat Brown**

*February 17, 1996*

Hillary and I were saddened to learn of Gov. Pat Brown's death.

I am very grateful for the warm friendship and wise counsel he generously extended to me, and for what he meant to America.

More than any other individual, he built modern California, with its great universities, highways, and vital water system.

He loved people, and he loved politics. Always positive and optimistic, he believed in the promise of America, and he brought out the best in people, because they knew he was committed to their future.

He was blessed with a wonderful wife and five children, who carried on his traditions of public service. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bernice, Jerry, Kathleen, Barbara, and Cynthia, and Pat Brown's grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May his great heart and good spirit be with them always.

### **Remarks at a Democratic Dinner in Nashua, New Hampshire**

*February 17, 1996*

Thank you very much. Please relax. [Laughter] I have had a wonderful day today, the second wonderful day in just 2 weeks in New Hampshire. And to all of you who had anything to do with that day or the one before, to all of you who helped me in 1992 in the primary and then to win this State in the general election, which surprised everybody in the world, I want to thank you.

I thank chairman Joe Keefe and your vice chair, Mary Chambers, and my dear friend Anita Freedman, and Keith Regli and the other officers of the Democratic Party, and your DNC members, Terry Shumaker and Stephanie Powers and Ambassador Bruno—it has a nice ring to it, don't you think—[laughter]—for their service to our party. And I want to say a special word of thanks to Congressman Dick Swett and John Rauh for being willing to fight and struggle to guarantee that we win that United States Senate seat for the Democrats in November.

Somebody asked me this morning when I was coming up here what in the world I was doing going to New Hampshire. They said, "You don't have an opponent." I said, "Well, for once I'd like to win the New Hampshire primary." [Laughter] "And it